

REMARKS

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.111, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the claim rejections set forth in the Office Action dated April 6, 2006.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ogasawara (EP 1061736 A1). The Examiner indicated in the Office Action dated April 6, 2006 that Claims 3 – 5 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 1 has been amended to include the features of Claim 2 and allowable Claim 3. Accordingly, Claim 1 is allowable over the cited art.

Conclusion

For at least the reasons presented above, the Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned in the event that a telephone interview would expedite consideration of the application.

Respectfully submitted,



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